

January 19

Bel and the Dragon 1:3-5

“You Gotta’ Serve Somebody”



³ Now the Babylons had an idol, called Bel, and there were spent upon him every day twelve great measures of fine flour, and forty sheep, and six vessels of wine.

⁴ And the king worshipped it and went daily to adore it: but Daniel worshipped his own God. And the king said unto him, Why dost not thou worship Bel? ⁵ Who answered and said, Because I may not worship idols made with hands, but the living God, who hath created the heaven and the earth, and hath sovereignty over all flesh.

Are there leaders of our time who practice various forms of Baal worship or devotion to unholy entities? The king, during the time of this account, worshipped an idol called Baal. This king worshipped and adored the idol

every single day. However, Daniel chose to only worship the Living God.

It may seem strange, at least to some people, that there are those who actually worship hand-made idols and animals.

Some people do not just have an appreciation for works of art, for example, or an affection for various creatures. They go as far as to worship, to bow down to, and pray to animals and things which were created by other humans.

Such behavior may seem really bizarre. Nonetheless, whether it be a thing, person, or place, many do commonly idolize and worship someone or something rather than God alone. Even people who claim to be non-religious can be found worshipping careers, celebrities, possessions, hobbies, sports teams, and even mates, children, and pets.

Maybe the urge to worship is a part of the nature of humans. 🎵 Perhaps, the words of an old secular song have some validity:
*It may be the devil or it may be the Lord,
but you gotta' serve somebody.*

As Daniel believed and practiced, the genuine Believer only serves “the living God” who has created the heaven and the earth, and has control over all flesh.